



FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.

A REGISTERED LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP
600 CONGRESS AVENUE, SUITE 2400
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-3271
WWW.FULBRIGHT.COM

RCE/1600
\$

SHIGHLANDER@FULBRIGHT.COM
PARTNER
DIRECT DIAL: (512) 536-3184

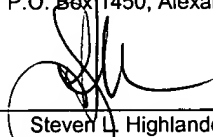
TELEPHONE: (512) 474-5201
FACSIMILE: (512) 536-4598

October 31, 2003

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<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8</p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:</p> <p align="center"><u>October 31, 2003</u> Date</p> <p align="center"> Steven L. Highlander</p>

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/828,498 Entitled: "FULL-LENGTH GB VIRUS C (HEPATITIS VIRUS) RNA TRANSCRIPTS ARE INFECTIOUS IN PRIMARY CD4 POSITIVE T CELLS AND METHODS OF TREATING HIV" by Xiang et al.
Our Ref. No. IOWA:030US / Matter No. 10008943

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application is:

1. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
2. A check for \$385.00; and
3. A return postcard to acknowledge receipt of these materials. Please date stamp and mail this postcard.

25353004.1

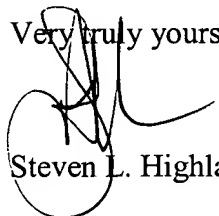
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If the check is inadvertently omitted, or the amount is insufficient, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/IOWA:030US/SLH.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SLH", is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Steven L. Highlander

SLH/cpj

Encl: As noted